



THE RARA RAG

Newsletter of The Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

Founded in 1931

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THE EFHW ANTENNA

TIM BARRETT, K9VB, RARA VICE PRESIDENT

Our speaker this month is Bill Shanney W6QR who will be presenting remotely from the west coast. Bill has been an active member of the W6TRW Amateur Radio Club in Redondo, California since 1988 and has been a ham operator since 1960 with usual breaks early on for career and family. He is primarily a CW operator on 160 through 6 meters. Bill has a BSEE from the NJ Institute of Technology and worked for 45 years in RF and microwave design, retiring in 2007. He has written many technical articles of interest to beginning and advanced hams alike.

The topic Bill will present is the performance and practicalities of the End Fed Half Wave (EFHW) antenna for HF. This looks to be an interesting and rewarding evening so please come along on Wednesday January 4th to hear what Bill has to say. As usual our meeting is at 7pm at the BSA and will also be online.



Please join us on Wednesday, January 4th, 2023, 7:00PM at the Boy Scouts Headquarters at 2320 Brighton Henrietta Town-line Road, Rochester, New York 14623 or online by registering at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3229745465743550815>

RARA



YouTube

BOARDZ BUZZ

BRIAN O'CONNOR, KA2CGB

Season's Greetings! I trust you have had peaceful Holidays.

At this start of the New Year, I will share some thoughts from my perspective as a member of your Board of Directors:

Hybrid Meetings

We have been seeing a similar number of participants online as in person. Online participants should remember that you can "raise your hand" to ask questions; our online moderator will help you bring your thoughts to the floor. Although those members "in house" can chat together, share refreshments and join in the raffle, RARA is committed to our online meeting presence. We recently added some headsets for better audio from the presenters, and are planning to upgrade our house camera.

Member Fun

We want to encourage members to have short topic discussions early in the meeting (before the refreshment break). Perhaps you have a recent operating tale, can describe a current project (or problem!), or otherwise let us know what you are doing with amateur radio. Just bring your idea and grab a microphone or chime in online (no need for a PowerPoint)!

Tech Tips

We all have Nuggets of Knowledge that would interest other members. Whether your subject is nuts and bolts, Hertz and Volts, new stuff you've tried or explaining something tech, you can have an open floor. Please consider a favorite topic and prepare a simple 5 minute presentation for an upcoming meeting. Bring It On!

Help Wanted

As an organization, RARA relies upon its members in many ways. Of course there are membership dues which provide a foundation for the Club's operations. And then are those who show up, whether online or in person at our monthly meeting or at our operating events.

RARA's ongoing program includes monthly hybrid meetings and education programs such as license preparation courses, license testing sessions, the RARA Academy, Elmer's Corner Q&A sessions, and the combined online and on-air RARA/XRX CW training program. Annual events feature the Members-Only Auction, Winterfest, Hamfest, Summer Picnic and the planned return of the Annual Banquet. Public service events support fund-raising bicycle rides for diabetes and multiple sclerosis, the Lift Bridge Regatta rowing competition, and the Pumpkin Patrol safety activity over Halloween.

A great many people contribute to these meetings and events. However, RARA now needs a few volunteers to step forward in order to shore up our basic infrastructure. In the November Rag, Forest, WA2MZG, announced his plan to retire as editor of the RARA Rag after many years. His many contributions to the Club include leadership over several terms as president. He described in the Rag and by his commentary during our last monthly meeting, the editor has a well defined workflow with a well established production schedule. If you have an interest in getting the RARA message out to the amateur radio community then simply contact any Board member. You will have support from Forest and many others!

Club Radios

The RARA Board wants to expand our hands-on radio operation opportunities both in quantity and in quality. As part of this effort we would like to upgrade our available equipment with the purchase of a full-featured but compact modern radio to be used at such events.

We love to see members buy into this initiative using some of their membership points (as we did successfully with the 20m and 40m filters) that would be matched from Club funds.

There is currently a committee building a set of requirements. An article in the next Rag will solicit member feedback. Until then, please feel free to send comments or suggestions to secretary@RochesterHam.com.

Save the Date

Here's a "heads' up" for Club events that are in addition to the regularly scheduled monthly membership meetings and the many educational meetings.

- Winterfest: 18 February in Mendon Ponds Park. Members are invited to bring your radio and antenna and/or your favorite crock pot dish or a dessert; judges will be tasting! More details will be in the February Rag.
- Parks on the Air (POTA) operating event on 15 April. Stay tuned.
- Academy in the Park operating event on 13 May at Black Creek Park.
- June will see the RARA Hamfest as well as Field Day!
- And in July we will have the Summer Picnic in Mendon Ponds Park.

In Memoriam

Lastly, RARA made donations to the ARRL historic preservation fund in memory of past presidents Dick Goslee, KG2I(SK), and Len Gessin, WA2ZNC(SK). We note that each contributed to the Rochester area ham community for decades before and after their terms as RARA presidents.

Wishing you the very best for 2023.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 4, 2023 - RARA Meeting In Person and On-Line

7:00 PM - AT THIS LINK

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3229745465743550815>

THURSDAY JANUARY 5, 2023 - RARA Board of Directors Meeting

6:30 PM - ONLINE

Email request for link to secretary@rochesterham.org

RARA MEMBERSHIP

TIM BARRETT, K9VB, RARA VICE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Our club has a very healthy membership, standing at 584 members on September 30th, the end of our membership year. Thanks to all of those who have already renewed but there are still a number of lapsed members, currently our membership stands at 483 so if you haven't done so yet, please renew your membership [here](#).

There are many membership benefits, here are just some of them:

- Only members can attend the RARA Annual Auction
- Free admission to the RARA Hamfest
- Access to license classes and discounts for license manuals
- Annual events such as the Picnic and Winterfest
- Membership points for contributing to club events

Being a member is also important, as your dues and a healthy membership count contribute to many RARA activities such as Rag subscription, monthly meetings, RARA Academy sessions Elmer's Corner, [groups.io](#) mailing list, Facebook page, etc. Attracting good speakers is greatly helped when we can point to the size of our club, one of the largest ARRL affiliated clubs by the way. So, if you are not currently a member or have lapsed, please consider changing that!

I'd like to give a warm welcome to our new full members:

Jonathan Becker
Cindy Casaceli, KE2AED
Aidan LeMay, K5DOC
Ravi Mehta
Gary Parrett, KD2ZHW

Congratulations also to our eight new licensees. I have added their callsign to the database and made them full members, see the education page for details.

If you see any of our new members at a meeting or event make sure to introduce yourself and welcome them to the club!



EDUCATION

Karl Heinz Kremer, K5KHK, Education Coordinator

RARA LICENSE COURSES

Karl Heinz Kremer, K5KHK, License Class Coordinator

License Classes

The call signs for our newly licensed Technicians are in. Please welcome Jesse - KE2AIQ, Phil - KE2AIV, Alanna - KE2AIY, Maggie - KE2AIZ, Dora - KE2AJA, Dave - KE2AJB, Linda - KE2AJR Robert - KE2AMH and Joe - KE2AJS to the hobby!

For our Winter license class session, we will offer three classes taught by our volunteer instructors: Technician will start on January 10th 2023, General on January 12th and Amateur Extra on February 6th. All three classes will end the week of the March '23 license testing session. If you are interested in joining any of these classes, or know somebody who would like to join the hobby, please sign up by sending an email to education@rochesterham.org. Our classes are free to RARA members.

License Manuals

The current editions of the Technician, General and Amateur Extra license manuals are available to our members at a discount for \$25. For this discount, we unfortunately cannot deliver, and you would have to pick up the manual. If you are interested, please send an email to education@rochesterham.org

I usually have some license manuals with me at official RARA events (e.g. the monthly meetings).

The current edition of the General class license manual will expire at the end of June 2023. We will have a new question pool for the General test in July '23, and with that comes a new license manual. We are running short on General class manuals, and I don't want to order too many, and then have to put them

into the recycle bin. If you are interested in taking the General test and need a manual, I will collect names and then place a final order before our class starts. The books should arrive before class starts.

RARA ACADEMY

We are three quarters into our "Antenna Modeling with 4NEC2" RARA Academy sessions. We learned about using variables in 4NEC2, and how to use the optimizer. It's not too late to join the class, we have a recording of the first three sessions. Let me know if you are interested in joining via our education email address: education@rochesterham.org.

We are still looking for input in what our next Academy session should cover. To make it easy for our members to provide such input, we created an online survey. Please go to <http://tiny.cc/RaRaAcademySurvey2022> and fill out the survey. If this short link should not work, you can also use this link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfe_RvJyAfc2BidWxePLvK1r_CjQoS1PV0Ua6m2zETiyPa-w/viewform.

Operating Event for New Hams

For the third year in a row, we are planning an operating event for new hams. We are pretty flexible as to how this "new ham" gets interpreted: New to the hobby, new again to the hobby after a break, new to a certain aspect of the hobby, we won't send anybody away, but the focus will be on those new to the hobby. We've rented the same shelter in Black Creek Park that we had in the past for Saturday May 13th. If you are a new ham, this is a great event to attend to learn a whole bunch of stuff with hands on experience. We would like to have a rough count, so if you are planning on attending, please send an email to education@rochesterham.org. If you are interested in presenting about a specific aspect of ham radio, please get in touch with me.

RARA ELMERS' CORNER

Suzanne Bishopp, W2SUZ
Rich Bishopp, KD2UBJ
Elmers' Corner Coordinators

Happy New Year! Our last Elmers' Corner was short but sweet! We shared some fun QSO stories and we all agreed that the G90 was an all-around great radio-for portable and home use. We talked about the wind, and how to secure your antennas and your rig from dangerous high wind conditions that could include static discharge. We even helped one of our new hams with an on-the-spot test transmission. If you would like to watch our December Elmers' corner, please send me an email and I will send you the link!

Our next Elmers' Corner will be January 7th, but if you can't make it, we do record each session which I will share upon request.

Zoom is easy and available for everyone. Grab a cup of coffee (or whatever you like to drink) and join us. We talk about everything and anything radio related. Bring your questions, your tips and tricks, or just come and join in the conversation.

The Elmers' Corner happens the 1st Saturday of every month, September – May, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. But if you have a question or need help before then, just let us know. Reach out to us at any time at elmerscorner@rochesterham.org, we will do our best to find the right Elmer to answer your question.

ELMERS' CORNER

1st Saturday of the month
January 7th, 10AM – 12PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83484674667?pwd=MG5DZXd6SFovN3lXa0NNTzM5UnBLUT09>

Meeting ID: 834 8467 4667
Passcode: 786545

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,83484674667#,,,,*786545# US (New York)

+13126266799,,83484674667#,,,,*786545# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kiOoVkCMY>

MORSE CODE TRAINING

DAVE WILSON, WA2HOY, RXCWG COORDINATOR

The RXCW Group assists Hams wanting to learn Morse Code or to develop their CW skills.

BEGINNERS MORSE CODE ZOOM CLASSES

Peter Fournia, W2SKY, hosts Morse Code classes on Thursday evenings 7pm. No experience required.

Join the group at any session.

Register at: pfournia@gmail.com

MORSE PRACTICE FOR ALL LEVELS ON ZOOM

Tim Brown, WB2PAY, hosts code practice for all levels on Thursday evenings at 7:30pm.

Register at: tjbrown@rochester.rr.com

Those wanting to start into CW QSOs and Morse Code can schedule coaching sessions on Zoom. Contact Peter Fournia, W2SKY for further details.

W1AW On The Air CW Practice

Time	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
9 AM		Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow
4 PM	Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow	Fast
7 PM	Slow	Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow
10 PM	Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow	Fast

SLOW - 5, 7 1/2, 10, 13 and 15 wpm

FAST - 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 wpm

FREQ(MHz) - 1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975, 21.0675, 28.0675, 50.350, 147.555

W1AW - <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule>

RADIO ELMERS

Name	Call	Area	Email
Tim Brown	WB2PAY	Ogden	tjbrown@rochester.rr.com
Dave Carlson	N2OA	Batavia	kdcarlso@gmail.com
Lawrence Hill	N2AJX	Henrietta	lawrence.hill@rit.edu
Rich Hoffarth	K2AXP		rhoffarth2000@yahoo.com
Bill Kasperkoski	WB2SXY	Pittsford	wb2sxy@gmail.com
Don Kiser	AC2EV	N Greece	dkiser100@gmail.com
Karl Heinz Kremer	K5KHK	Chili	k5khk@khk.net
Tim Magee	WB2KAO	Greece	585-704-5747
Mike Moore	KC2NM		mikemoore@ieee.org
Peter Schuch	WB2UAQ	Perinton	pschuch@rochester.rr.com
Forest Shick	WA2MZG	Webster	fshick3@gmail.com
Dave Timmons	W2DST	N Greece	dstimmons@gmail.com
Steve Verzulli	KA1CNF		verzulli@yahoo.com
Dan Waterstraat	W2DEW	Henrietta	higreen@rochester.rr.com

CW ELMERS

Name	Call	Area	Email
Ned Asam	W2NED	Pittsford	w2ned@frontiernet.net
Tim Brown	WB2PAY	Ogden	tjbrown@rochester.rr.com
Pete Fournia	W2SKY	Penfield	pfournia@gmail.com
Bill Hopkins	AA2YV	Brighton	whopkin4@naz.edu
Bob Karz	K2OID	Webster	rkarz@rochester.rr.com
Joe Rowe	AG2Y	Webster	ag2y@rochester.rr.com
Harry Williams	KF2TV	Kingsland, GA	harryw7872@gmail.com

JANUARY RAFFLE PRIZES

- RSGB Radio Communications Handbook
- Broadcast Band FM Radio Kit
- 144 / 446 Dual Band Gain Antenna
- Heil Sound T Shirt

Coming in February

- ARRL 2023 Handbook

PROFESSOR'S PIC(k)s

JEFF SONSTEIN, WA2RRB

[Earth Rover](#)

[Muppets Explain Synthesizers](#)

[Just a Safety Reminder](#)



Belize Amateur Radio Club

The Belize Amateur Radio Club shack (V31HQ) has burned down. Nobody was injured, however Andre V31DL (owner of the shack) and BARC have lost ALL equipment."

Donations welcomed through their website:

<https://barc.bz/>

PUBLIC SERVICE REPORT

MIKE MOORE, KC2NM, PUBLIC SERVICE COORDINATOR

At the December RARA general meeting, I presented a chart describing the impact that our public service program has on our local community. In this month's RAG I want to expand on that chart and the results that it shows. In the table below I have listed our public service events from the past year, the number of ham participants, the length of each event and the number of participant service hours provided to the community.

Event	Date	Participants	Event Hours	Vol. Hours
ADA Tour de Cure	June 11, 2022	28	8	224
MS Great Lakes Ride	Aug. 13, 2022	11	6	66
Fairport Lift Bridge Regatta	Sept. 24, 2022	14	8	112
Scouting Ham Demonstration	Oct. 22, 2022	4	8	32
Pumpkin Patrol	Oct. 30,31, 2022	20	10	200
Total Community Service Hours				634

The total contribution of 634 hours is substantial by itself but, the impact to the community that our efforts enabled is even more valuable.

The Tour de Cure is a fundraising bike ride event for the American Diabetes Association. The American Diabetes Association is a nonprofit that seeks to educate the public about diabetes and to help those affected by it through funding research to manage, cure and prevent diabetes. The 2022 tour raised \$511,430 for the ADA. This included \$80,000 from event sponsors and \$292,607 contribution from 141 champions (large donors). There were 73 bike teams and 606 participants. While the fundraising dollar amounts are important, our RARA involvement made possible more public education and support of those living with diabetes by the participants and people who heard about the event.

The MS Great Lakes Ride is a similar fundraiser that benefits the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. For this event RARA supported 110 riders with a breakdown of 50 on the 62, 40 on the 30 and then 20 on the 16 mile rides. \$124,000 was raised to support research for a cure and services for people affected by MS. We participated with the Orleans County ARC.

The Fairport Lift Bridge Regatta is hosted by the Fairport Crew Club on the barge

canal in Fairport. The regatta is mostly a high school event with some race events provided for the community at large. This is an action packed day including 28 race events with 4 to 8 boats competing in each event. The race course is over a mile long and the RARA contribution consists of safety monitors along the course, liaison with race officials, EMS, and law enforcement, and reporting safety conditions and race results. We helped hundreds of participants and family members enjoy a safe sporting activity.

In October RARA provided a ham radio station demonstration on the activity midway at the Challenge Trophy Camporee at Scout Camp Babcock Hovey. There were 1000 plus scouts and scout leaders at the camp and everyone had an opportunity to see a QSO in progress and talk on the radio.

Pumpkin Patrol was well supported by RARA with coverage of all 16 bridges on both nights. This is our longest running event. We monitor thruway bridges and report illegal activity. The community benefit comes from the saving of law enforcement resources that would otherwise be used for this purpose. RARA members that participated received appreciation certificates from the NYS troopers and thank you in person visits on the nights of the activity.

In summary I would like to conclude that RARA members have done a really good job of giving back to the community through our ham radio hobby. I would give the club an A for their efforts in 2022.

Upcoming events in the public service calendar are listed in the following table. Visit https://rochesterham.org/public_service.htm for more information and to volunteer.

Please mark your calendars for our upcoming RARA Public Service Events

Event	Location	Day	Date
Tour de Cure	Xerox Campus Webster	Saturday	June 10, 2023
MS Roc the Ride	Lakeside Beach State Park	Saturday	August 12, 2023
Fairport Lift Bridge Regatta	Erie Canal – Fairport, NY	TBD	TBD
JOTA / Ham Radio Demonstration - CTC	Camp Cutler, Naples, NY	TBD	TBD
Pumpkin Patrol	Overpasses of the New York State Thruway	Monday and Tuesday	Oct. 30-31, 2023

DECEMBER 2022 PRESENTATION: AMATEUR RADIO BREADBOARD TRANSMITTERS

TIM BARRETT, K9VB, RARA VICE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

As your Vice President, one of my responsibilities is to find a speaker for each of our monthly meetings. I thought it would be interesting to also provide a short review in the Rag on the previous month's meeting so here goes!

The December meeting was well attended with 40 people present plus another 37 online. During the normal news and general update section Scott introduced a new RARA Tech Tips Section. He gave a short description of Computer Solid State Drives which was well received and generated a short discussion. I think this is a great idea and Scott is hoping others will also contribute. So for example, if you have googled a ham radio question recently, consider whether the answer you found would be interesting to others. A two to five minute segment is all that is needed.

Our main talk was from Andy Flowers K0SM and what a great session it was. Andy took us through his own experience of replicating the work of amateur radio pioneers of the 1920s and 30s by building a radio transmitter from scratch. And I mean from scratch! He showed us how to make capacitors, resistors and inductances using mainly household materials. Some of the rigs looked as if they were built on real breadboards, i.e. those originally meant for slicing bread. He even talked about how to make home brew battery power supplies. If you wonder what these rigs sound like on air then you have a great opportunity every November when the AWA holds their annual Bruce Kelley 1929 QSO Party.

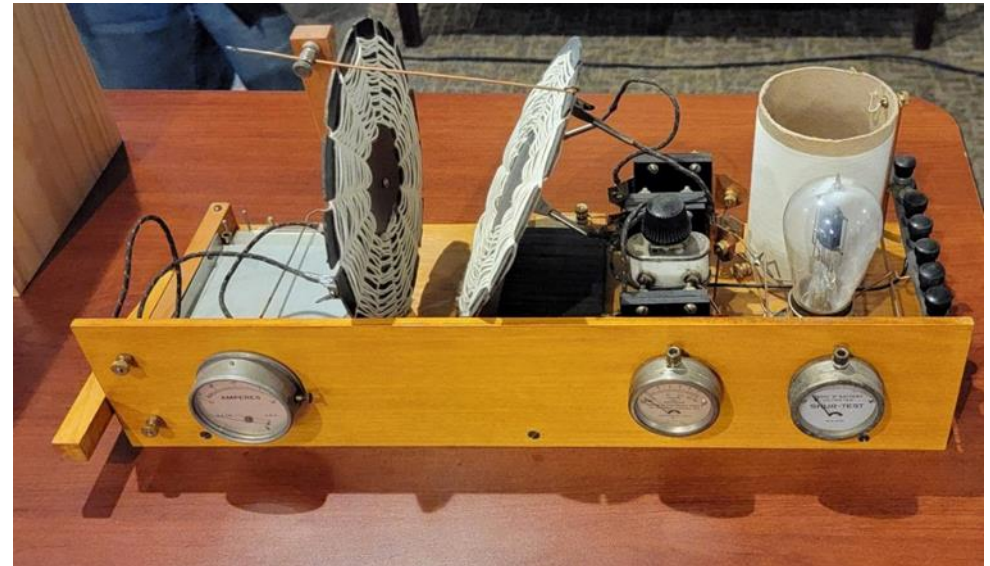
I particularly liked his quote describing the process of breadboarding which I will quote here in full:

"Breadboarding is an iterative procedure, an odd amalgam of experience guiding an innocent, ignorant, explorative spirit. A key is to be willing to try things out, sometimes for not very good reasons. Invent problems and solutions, guess carefully and wildly, throw rocks and see what comes loose. Invent and design experiments, and follow them wherever they lead. Reticence to try things is probably the number one cause of breadboards that 'don't work'. (Jim Williams, Linear Technology Tech Note AN47, 1991)."

All in all, it was a great evening and I look forward to further talks from Andy!



Andy Flowers, K0SM presenting at the December Meeting



One of the home brewed Transmitters at the meeting

JANUARY IS STRAIGHT KEY MONTH

KARL HEINZ KREMER, K5KHK

Straight Key Night

It's time again to polish and adjust those brass straight keys and bugs to get ready for the Straight Key Night (SKN) on New Year's Day (UTC, which means you can get quite a bit of operating in before the ball drops at midnight). Details about this operating event can be found here: <http://www.arrl.org/straight-key-night>

Keep in mind that this is not a contest, so stop and smell the roses (meaning: exchange a bit more than just the bare minimum of what's required to log the QSO). This is about appreciating mechanically produced CW.

SKCC K3Y Event

We are not done yet using our straight key (or bugs or cooties): Keep that key ready, because the remainder of January is the Straight Key Century Club's (SKCC) anniversary event with the K3Y special event call being on the air from all ten US calling areas, plus KH6, KL7 and KP4. There will also be several associated DX stations from six IARU continental regions and of course Canadian stations participating in the event. The plan is to have all 50 states participate in using the K3Y call sign. If you need to fill in some states for your CW WAS, this is a good opportunity.

You can keep track of your progress by using the SKCCLogger program (see the SKCC web page for more information). And, after the event, there is of course a QSL card that will list all the areas you were able to contact (the picture shows the QSL card from last year and one of my straight keys – I built the one in the picture in 11th grade). To learn more about the event, see the official SKCC page:

<https://www.skccgroup.com/k3y/k3y.php>

If you've participated in previous years, and feel up to the challenge, you can even volunteer to operate K3Y for an hour or two. If you are working on climbing the SKCC ladder towards your senator level, that is a great chance to get a lot of contacts in a short amount of time.

This is not an event just for experienced operators: If you are new to CW, this is also a great opportunity to practice listening and sending, and you might be surprised by the progress you can make over one month.

I hope to hear you on the air when I chase the K3Y stations across the world.



ROCHESTER MAKER FAIRE

GEORGE ADAMS, K4GWA

Last year I went to the Rochester Maker Faire for the first time and volunteered to work the Learn to Solder station. When my morning shift was over, I walked around to see the exhibits. I saw a large room-filling 3D printer, robots galore, myriad artists with their work, people selling their wares, and much more. What was conspicuous in its absence was amateur radio! That just had to change for 2022.

Thankfully, getting a table is free; you just have to fill out a form to be reviewed and accepted by the organizers. The primary qualification is that you make something, which is a wide net to cast. In addition to making contacts, radio amateurs commonly make their own antennas, Morse code keys, QRP radio kits, go-kits for rapid field deployment, and LiFePO4 batteries. We had all that and more at our table. Many kids and adults came to talk to us and inquire about the funny sounds we were making with either me demonstrating how poor my CW timing is or automatically squawking APRS packets every few minutes.

In addition to showing what we had, we also offered Morse code key kits for kids of all ages to build at the Learn to Solder station. Most of the components were donated by my coworker who was excited to help kids get into electronics. The kits included small prototype circuit boards, LEDs, buzzers, switches, and 2032 battery holders. We bagged these up beforehand and doled them out during the fair. We went through 50 kits before noon and ran out at 100 a few hours later. Over at the Learn to Solder station, they were a little short-staffed so we had one or two of our own over there to help make the kits. I think the youngest kit-builder was just 4 years old, but he held the iron steady—sometimes right on the table but that's better than on my finger.



All in all, this was a great event. In my opinion, this is a wonderful opportunity to reach new people. From even our friends and family we too often we hear statements like, "what would I use that for," when we talk about our service and hobby, but the people who attend Maker Faire are the ones who look at something and immediately start to think about how they could use whatever new skill is presented to them. I would not be surprised if our day at the Faire led to more call signs on the air.

Before I sign off, I want to extend my gratitude to Susan Aiello (W2SBA), Jon Dickason (N2JAC), Joe DiVincenzo (AD2DB), Bob Karz (K2OID), Karl Heinz Kremer (K5KHK), and Erin Platterer (AA2FO). They served the approximately 1700 Maker Faire attendees with me to make this experience an overwhelming success.

Lastly, if you're interested, you can see a full list of the makers and exhibits at <https://rochester.makerfaire.com/makers-and-exhibits-2022/>. I hope to see you there next year!

MICROWAVES ACROSS THE BORDER

BRIAN O'CONNOR, KA2CGB

There are so many ways that hams make a QSO.

At 50 MHz and below, propagation is dominated by surface wave (aka "ground wave") and ionospheric refraction (aka "sky wave").

Propagation above 50 MHz presents more propagation mechanisms than the lower bands. These include:

- Direct Wave over a Line-of-Sight (LOS) path
- Ducting (influenced by temperature/ humidity gradients)
- Earth-Moon-Earth (EME) "moonbounce"
- Scatter modes
 - tropospheric ("troposcatter")
 - precipitation (rain, snow, volcanic ash)
 - ionization
 - meteor trails ("meteor scatter")
 - aurorae
- Reflection
- Diffraction

As with most things radio, technical challenge increases with frequency.

On Saturday, 3 December, the Ontario VHF Association (OVHA) hosted a joint meeting with the Rochester VHF Group (RVHFG). The venue was a community center just a few minutes beyond the Peace Bridge from Buffalo.

There was a good balance between hams from north and south of the border. The American contingent ranged from Syracuse to Cleveland. One Canadian ham drove south for six hours to join us! There were about 40 hams in all.

The venue provided an audience space with good audio and a video projector, an area for tables for flea market and freebie offerings, and a room with lots of tables for "show and tell" displays.

A summary of the very informative discussions includes:

1. Optical Communications Primer (VE2UG)

Lead photo shows a modulated light source at a "great distance" from the receiver within the GTA. Pros and cons of optical communications links discussed:

- modulation: AM vs PWM
- frequency: visible vs infra red
- sources: non-coherent (LED) vs coherent (laser) sources
- available receiver technologies
- SNR: daylight vs night time operation
- at these frequencies, "no license required"

Learn more at <http://www.modulatedlight.org/>

2. VHF as a New Ham (VE3GKT)

His experience as a new ham using an IC-7100 to achieve N1CC in POTA. Great attitude, simple kit, always evolving.

3. 2022 10 GHz & Up Contest (K8ZR)

Experience with an organized campaign which included 3 teams of hams operating across Lake Superior. About 30 hams were involved. Teams were shifting QTH regularly over 2 days. Solid phone contacts were the norm across hundreds of km. A missed opportunity between the teams was that rain scatter was available to the east but most were looking west!

4. W2UTH/B Status (K2DH)

Described the hardware and antennas used on the RVHFG beacons for 50 144 222 432 1296 2304 MHz and 10 GHz. Discussed plans for a 5.7 GHz beacon.

5. Getting on 76/78 GHz in 2022 (K2UA)

A review of commercial components for building a station. Also a discussion of the use of WR12 or WR15 waveguides.

6. Polarization Alignment In Real Life (W2EV)

On-air tests using 2m SSB QSOs between W2EV and other metro-area stations. All paths were obstructed to some extent by terrain. The reported signal quality between H & V polarization was mixed, suggesting that cross-polar attenuation is very often less than the textbooks would suggest.

The show-and-tell was very interesting. Stations on display were variously equipped for 10 through 122 GHz. The hardware on hand reflected an understanding of the technology, implemented with personal skills: a stable tripod supports a platform of electronics which ultimately interface with the feed-horn of a parabolic dish. These are portable stations, just dismount the station from the tripod and travel to the next location.

In all of these stations, a low-power "IF transceiver" operating in the VHF range performs the mod/demod functions for the operator. SSB phone, WSJT and CW may be employed to close the QSO for that specific path.

One ham showed his large scale, threaded, 3D-printed components for mounting an rf feed to a dish. Details such as the difference in strength when printing the object horizontal or vertical were fascinating.

W2EV had an aquarium tank loaded with a non-homogeneous sugar solution. When illuminated with a laser pointer the beam clearly bent down. This diffraction illustrates "earth bulge", which is why engineers commonly use 4/3 of the earth's radius to account for the curvature of the earth on point-to-point microwave links.

All in all very informative session. It was great to meet our OVHFA friends for the first time since the COVID barrier was erected.

Many thanks to Dana, VE3DS, and Rus, K2UA, for putting this together!

JANUARY VHF CONTEST: JAN 21-23

JIM HOWARD, N2JMH

The Rochester VHF Group invites you to get on the air the third weekend of January to help us activate all the bands above 50 MHz! The contest runs from 2 pm Saturday until 11 pm on Sunday. Exchange is your call and grid square.

In the past, the local contingent of hams has helped the VHF Group grab national attention with the amount of activity we were able to generate, and I am asking again to help the cause. I won't get into an explanation of VHF contesting, you can go to the ARRL contest website for the rules. What we need is for you to get on the air! Try calling CQ on any of the simplex frequencies to make some random contacts or join us for some local activity hours. Don't forget to make contacts on all the bands you have in common.

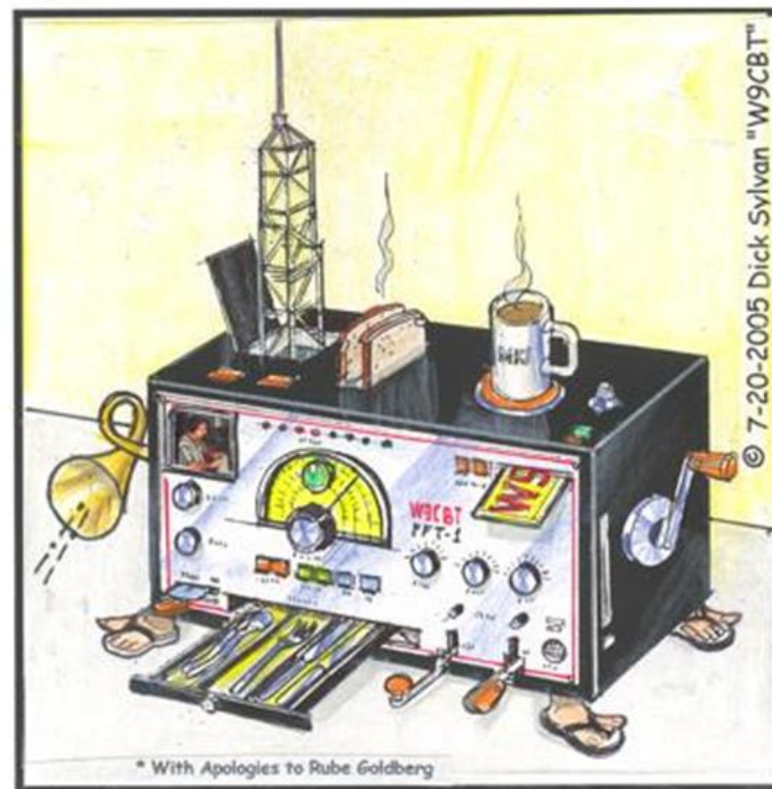
Local Activity Hours

Saturday 7 pm 144.260 SSB	Saturday 8 pm 146.550 FM
Sunday 9 am 144.260 SSB	Sunday 10 am 146.550

The KF2MR/R rover station, ready to roll for a VHF contest



HAM QUIPS "A Real Full Featured Transceiver"



Features:

Telescoping Antenna & Tower, Seeing Eye Tuner-Tube, Hand Crank Electric Generator, Pop up Toaster, Hotplate, TV, QSL Dispenser, Hi Tech Speaker, Keyer, Hand Key, Pull Out Mic. CreditCard slot, Napkin Dispenser, Silverware Tray, Non-Slip Feet Etc, Etc.

Dick Sylvan, W9CBT, is a very accomplished ham radio cartoonist and his work appeared previously in the K9YA Telegraph and also appears in the NAQCC Newsletters. His book "HI - HI - A Collection of Ham Radio Cartoons" is available at www.lulu.com

RAGS OF THE PAST

ED GABLE, K2MP, RARA HISTORIAN

20 Years Ago, January 2003

"Woopee it's 2003," was the headline as RARA brought in a new year. Helping that was Jon Dickerson N2JAC, as he introduced his RARA meeting for the beginning the year with a program title of "Echolink?????" He went on to a one sentence description that revealed it was a method of connecting repeaters and individual hams via their computers. At that time RARA meetings were held at 8:00 p.m. in the Henrietta Fire Hall. The next event happening was told to us by Peter Fournia W2SKY, who reminded us of an enjoyable annual happening called the Science and Technology Fair, held annually and this year at the Rochester Museum and Science Center. The fair, using invited groups from industry, academia, science clubs, Scouting and, in our case RARA, delighted visitors to a wide variety of science related demonstrations and lectures. RARA was joined by RDXA, the Kodak-RARA Electronics Explorer Post 621 and RAPS to have on-air demonstrations of CW, SSB and data modes. The deadline for submitting applications for the awarding of the RARA Scholarships was April 15th, wrote RARA Treasurer Richard Goslee (sk) K2VCZ. The Scholarship program, now in its third year honors past members: Lee Zwack W2WPF, Bill Buchan W2OMV and William Resch K4VOS. Writing for the RARA Licensing Classes was Ray Pickens WA2MYG, who wrote a detailed report on all three classes, plus the CW class, with individual names, callsigns and their achievement. Nice to see so many new calls in print. Ray thanked many long time class instructors: Art W2YGW, Al N2VY, Ron N2TOX and Brad (sk) KB2CHY. And that, dear readers, is all the RARA news. The rest of this eight page edition was devoted to copying word-for-word a far too technical engineering article from a German magazine and was a total waste of time and space. There were no new Want Ads in this issue, but Glenwood Sales of 594 Hague Street, remained a long term supporter of RARA with their large format advertising.



the RARA RAG

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ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOL. 55

JANUARY 2003

NO.5

WOOPEE IT'S 2003

JANUARY PROGRAM ECHOLINK ????

Jon Dickason N2JAC

I'll be explaining Echolink, a method of connecting repeaters and individual hams on their computers. If you have a computer with sound and an Internet connection, you can connect to 1000 repeaters and individuals around the world. If you don't have room for antennas, or they're not allowed on your apartment, you can talk around the world from your HT. If your HF gear is in the attic, but your office is in the basement, you can listen to hundreds of repeaters on your computer. If you've moved away from your hometown and want to keep in touch with your ham buddies, they may have an Echolink enabled repeater nearby. I'll be explaining how the 145.29 Xerox repeaters are connected to Echolink, and how you can use KIRFD's FREE software from www.echolink.org to make contacts.

SCHOLARSHIP RE-MINDER

Dick Goslee K2VCZ

The deadline for submitting applications for the third annual RaRa Memorial Scholarship is April 15, 2003. The "Rochester Amateur Radio Association Memorial Scholarship" has been established with generous donations made in memory of Leland Zwack, W2WPF, William Buchan, W2OMV and William Resch, K4VOS. The scholarship is available to any

CONTINUED PAGE SEVEN

Amateur Radio Exhibits at RMSC

Peter Fournia, W2SKY

The annual Science and Technology Fair are now running at Rochester Museum and Science Center, Dec. 27, 28, 29, 30. Amateur radio is among the exhibits. This is a great time for you and your family to visit these special hands-on activities for all ages. A HF station will be operating on the weekend hosted by RDXA. It is led by Mile Rundle, N1OKL. This is always a big hit with passers by. The RAPS group is planning to host an APRS exhibit. This may be the last chance to connect with PCsat before it is permanently silenced. Jack Tripp, W2JAT also hopes to display the many packet connections in Europe. The usual Radio Coach hands-on exhibits will also be available. These have been very popular with the very young kids. The Kodak-RARA Electronics Explorer Post 621 will bring a new and exciting face to our exhibit this year. The new post has completed 5

CONTINUED PAGE SIX

RaRa MEETING

January 3, 2003

8:00 PM

HENRIETTA FIRE HALL
3129 E. HENRIETTA RD.

ECHOLINK

PRESENTED BY

Jon Dickason N2JAC

40 Years Ago, January 1983

The January meeting found RARA at a new home for their meetings at the 40/8 (forty and eight) Club at 933 University Avenue across from the Gleason Works. A fine program initiated the venue with a guest speaker from Cornell University, Mr. George Peter, who gave an all new program on the large radio telescope located at Arecibo, Puerto Rico. It was that time of year again, you can set your calendars by it, that was the Rochester VHF Group writing to beat the drum and get all Rochester hams in the mood to join the popular ARRL VHF Contest held every year in January. Bill Gillette WB2KIW, was this year's drummer. A new rule this year was the prohibition of using 146.52 as a contest operating frequency. In those lines, Tom Richmond WB2IEY (now WB2IEY/VE3), wrote to announce WB2RRE/3 would be sitting in Eastern PA section with a big yagi on Rochester. In an unprecedented alliance of repeater groups, The Rochester Radio Repeater Association and the Genesee Radio Repeater Association, along with twelve other repeater groups, linked ham repeaters from Arizona to Washington, DC, to link 250 individual ham operators for a conference on AMTOR. Ed Neubauer N2BXA, wrote to announce a RARA sponsored trip to the Strasensburgh Planetarium. For the RDXA, with Rick Berg KS2F at the pen, wrote telling their next monthly program would be a report on the recently completed DXpedition to Desecheo Island. The RARA Valentine Dinner Party was announced for February 12th at the Hilton Inn on the Campus, where you would enjoy roast beef, London broil or chicken dinners and dance to Ralph Zwald and his Banjo musical group. Ed Holdsworth (sk) N2EH, announced a scheduled meeting in the Auditorium at 111 Westfall Road, to finalized RACES assignments for assigned response locations such as the E.O.C., Hospitals, Care Centers and the like. Spring Licensing classes were announced to be held at 111 Westfall Road. Dwight Hill K2KWK, our now and again feature writer inserted a column in this issue where he expressed concern that amateurs might lose some underutilized amateur bands and that a solution might be to invite more CB'ers into the Amateur Radio realm. In the Want Ad section was a large insertion by Scientific Radio Systems of Orchard Street, looking for Electronic Technicians to satisfy their increasing business needs. From the personal Want Ads Roger Haarnart WB2BWQ, really wanted his IC-225 back that was recently removed from his car without his permission. A new commercial advertiser was Robinson Rochester Cycles, where Jim Lill WA2ZKD, will help you select a Triumph motorcycle.

The RARA RAG

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BIG DISH AT ARECIBO REVISITED RaRa MEETS JANUARY 7 - 40/8 CLUB

Our January 7th meeting will be at the 40/8 (*pronounced Forty and Eight*) Club, 933 University Avenue, across the street from Gleason Works. There should be adequate parking in the club lot. If not, there is plenty of room at the church on the east side of the club.

About two years ago, George Peter of the N.A.I.C. at Cornell University presented a look at the giant radiotelescope at Arecibo, Puerto Rico. His talk was so well received that we have invited him back for an update on the latest happenings with the big dish. We hope to have a big turnout for his presentation at our new meeting place.

The meeting will start promptly at 8:00 p.m. and there will be the usual committee reports, announcements, awards program, and of course refreshments courtesy of our own George Muller, WA2IEO.

VHF SWEEPSTAKES RULES CHANGE

by Bill Gillette, WB2KIW, Contest Chariman

This January there are two major rule changes to be wary of. First, the traditional exchange of serial numbers has been dropped at the ARRL. Secondly, we are prohibited from using 146.52 for contest point contacts. You must use any other simplex frequency in the two meter band.

To be sure you have a complete understanding of the new rules see page 87 of *QST* for December 1982. Read Section 6 of the rules carefully.

THE CONTEST IS JANUARY 15 and 16.

Now is the best antenna weather, go get them up in the snow so they are used to the adversity to come!

Send your log sheets to Bill Gillette, 321 Frisbee Hill Road, Hilton, New York 14468.

This is it kid - you have all winter to recover. Get out your midnight oil, etc. With you operating and sending us your log we can do it. There is no log too small.

SEE YOU IN MY LOG!

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by Ed Holdsworth, N2EH

I am happy to be able to report at this time that the Board of Directors have agreed on a new meeting place. The location and directions are presented in another article in the *Rag* so I will not cover them here. If you have any comments regarding the location etc., we would like to hear from you. We feel that the hall is centrally located, easy to get to and should have adequate parking.

I also wish to submit a short report on public service activities which have been rather slow recently. I will be having a meeting in the Auditorium at 111 Westfall Road on Monday, January 24, 1983 starting at 7:30 p.m. This is primarily for those people that are signed up to respond to a designated location in an emergency, such as the E.O.C., Hospitals, Monitor Stations or Care Centers. If anyone that has not signed up is interested in attending, the meeting will be open to all, so if you have an interest in Emergency Communications, plan on attending.

The spring licensing course will commence February 21, 1983 at 7:30 p.m. They will be held at 111 Westfall Road, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. on each successive Monday until May 16, 1983. Complete details will be in the February issue.



VALENTINE DINNER PARTY

Bring your favorite date, or come alone, but come, to the Packet Room, Hilton on the Campus, February 12th, 1983 for the RaRa Valentine Dinner Party.

The ladies will receive corsages.

Cash Bar - 6:30 p.m.

Dinner - 7:30 p.m. Choices are roast beef, London broil, or baked chicken.

Ralph Zwald and his banjo group promise us an unforgettable evening of entertainment.

Tickets are only \$15.00 per person. They will be available at the January and February RaRa Meetings.

Dance with the Hotel Band.

See you there!

RARA CALENDAR

TIM BARRETT, K9VB, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

January 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 AGCW Happy New Year Contest AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	2 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest ARS Spartan Sprint	3 Phone Weekly Test QRP Foxhunt	4 RaRa Monthly Mtg BSA & ONLINE 7pm ROC City Net ~3.830 MHz, 7pm A1 Club AWT CWOps Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini Test 40, 80 Walk for the Bacon Contest	5 RARA BoD Mtg 6:30pm ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.205 USB Walk for the Bacon Contest NRAU 10m Activity Contest NCCC Sprints SKCC Sprints Europe QRP Fox Hunt	6 K1USN Slow Speed Test	7 ROC City Net 28.405 MHz, 9pm ARRL Kids Day PODXS 070 Club PSKFest Marconi ARI Loano QSO Party SKCC Sprintathon WW PMC Contest RSGB AFS Contest, CW Original QRP Contest EUCW 160M Contest ARRL RTTY Roundup
8 SKCC Sprintathon WW PMC Contest Original QRP Contest ARRL RTTY Roundup EUCW 160M Contest NRAU-Baltic Contest DARC 10m Contest Midwinter Contest	9 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest	10 Phone Weekly Test QRP Foxhunt	11 ROC City Net ~3.830 MHz, 7pm A1 Club AWT CWOps Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini Test 40, 80	12 ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.205 USB NRAU 10m Activity Contest NCCC Sprints QRP Fox Hunt EACW Meeting	13 K1USN Slow Speed Test	14 ROC City Net 28.405 MHz, 9pm YB DX Contest WAB 1.8 MHz Phone UBA PSK63 Prefix Contest NA QSO Party, CW
15 UBA PSK63 Prefix Contest NA QSO Party, CW RSGB AFS Contest, Data Run for the Bacon Contest	16 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest	17 Phone Weekly Test QRP Foxhunt	18 ROC City Net ~3.830 MHz, 7pm A1 Club AWT CWOps Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini Test 40, 80 Walk for the Bacon Contest	19 ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.205 USB Walk for the Bacon Contest NTC QSO Party NCCC Sprints QRP Fox Hunt	20 K1USN Slow Speed Test	21 ROC City Net 28.405 MHz, 9pm ARRL January VHF Contest Hungarian DX Contest RSGB AFS Contest, SSB North American QSO Party, SSB PRO Digi Contest Feld Hell Sprint
22 ARRL January VHF Contest Hungarian DX Contest North American QSO Party, SSB PRO Digi Contest Feld Hell Sprint	23 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest	24 Phone Weekly Test QRP Foxhunt	25 ROC City Net ~3.830 MHz, 7pm A1 Club AWT CWOps Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini Test 40, 80 Australia Day Contest UKEICC 80m Contest	26 ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.205 USB NRAU 10m Activity Contest NCCC Sprints QRP Fox Hunt Australia Day Contest	27 K1USN Slow Speed Test	28 ROC City Net 28.405 MHz, 9pm AWA Linc Cundall CW Contest CQ 160M Contest, CW REF Contest, CW UBA DX Contest, SSB Winter Field Day BARTG RTTY Sprint
29 AWA Linc Cundall CW Contest CQ 160M Contest, CW REF Contest, CW UBA DX Contest, SSB Winter Field Day BARTG RTTY Sprint	30 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest QCX Challenge	31 Phone Weekly Test QRP Foxhunt				

VE TEAM

Testing takes place on the 3rd Saturday September - April

Dates for 2023: 1/21, 2/18, 3/18, 4/15

Testing Location

RIT
Rochester Institute of Technology
Building 16 -Schmitt Interfaith Center
43.08402626755475, -77.6734520379509

- Easiest path is from Parking Lot D it can be accessed from West Jefferson Rd via Andrews Memorial Dr or Lowenthal Rd
- From parking lot D walk south up the ramp to the Schmitt Interfaith Center.
- Once inside there is an elevator over to your left or stairs in front of you. Go to the first floor and you will find the Skalny room.

Please Note: this room cannot be accessed from the door under the bridge.

Pre-registration is required visit:

<https://hamstudy.org/sessions/14612/inperson> to find the latest session.

More information is available on the RARA website:

https://rochesterham.org/license_testing.htm

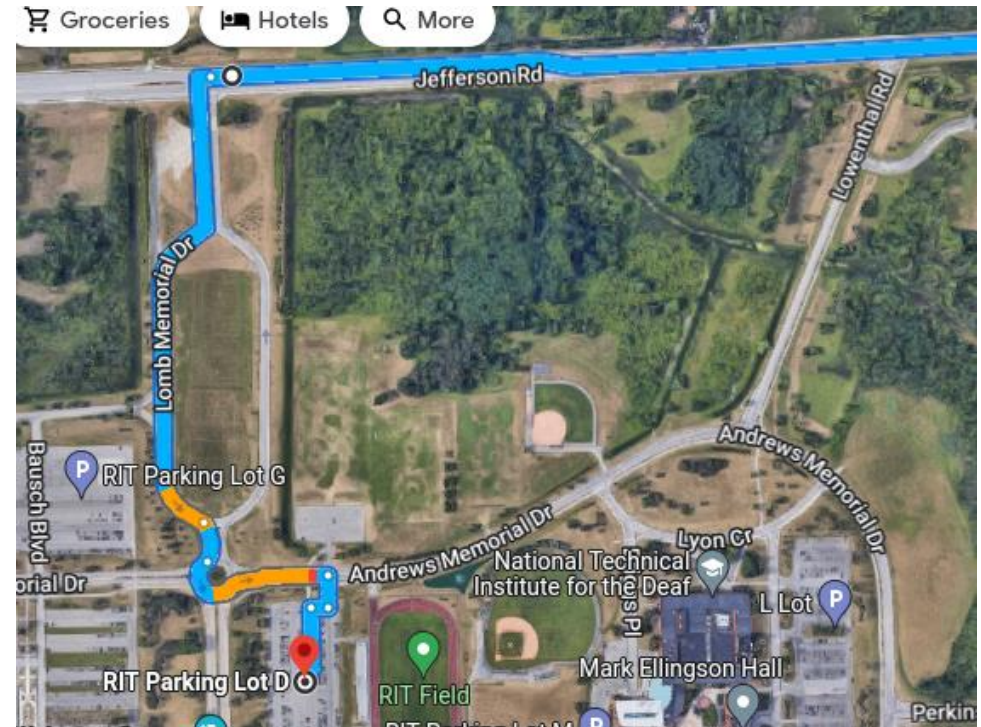
Applicants must supply their own pen, pencil, calculator

Testing begins at 10:00AM.

Also Note: The exam is free however the FCC now charges \$35 for applications. This fee is NOT paid to the VE team. It is paid directly to the FCC. You will receive an email from the FCC when your application is processed. We will also have an information sheet available

Philip Chapman	KE2AIV	G	Michael Copenhagen	T
Robert Doehler		T	Rebekah Flowers	G
Brett Irwin	KE2AJG	G	William Mahoney	T
Joseph Moore		T	Ada Phillips	T

New licensees' names are in BOLD



NEWS FROM AREA CLUBS

MONROE COUNTY ARES / RACES News

Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)® is an amateur radio public service organization based in Monroe County, New York, and is open to all licensed amateur radio operators. Monroe County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) is a program of the Monroe County Office of Emergency Management. We participate in training and emergency exercises so that we can serve other agencies during times of communication failure.



The Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc. holds its meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month except in July, August, November and December. Anyone interested, members and non-members, are welcome to attend.

Until further notice, our meetings are via Zoom. Please check our website for any schedule changes. Prospective members can request an invitation by email to: secretary@monroecountymcomm.org.

Monroe County ARES/RACES meets on the air every Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM, on the N2MPE 146.61 MHz (-) 110.9 Hz PL and 444.45 MHz (+) 110.9 Hz PL repeaters. Our club callsign is WB2EOC.

There is no net on nights when we hold our regular meeting, generally on the 4th Thursday of the month.

WEB: www.monroecountymcomm.org

Facebook: Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc.

Twitter @MCARESny

Severe Weather Alerts: Winter may bring severe weather in the form of heavy snowstorms, strong winds, and flooding. If you experience severe weather, especially when accompanied by damage to property in your area, listen to your local ARES/RACES repeaters for information. While official ARES/RACES activation could be a possibility, it is more important that we open a spontaneous net simply to share information about weather conditions in your immediate area. Don't wait for someone else to do it. Pick up the microphone and start a net. Have each check-in station give you a situational awareness report and emergency power report. If you don't have a copy of the directed net protocol, you can find one at the WEB address listed above. (Activities/ARES Net/ Net Script/ Downloads). We encourage all amateur radio operators to take a free Skywarn TM class offered by the National Weather Service. The schedule of classes can be found at <https://www.weather.gov/buf/skywarn>

Monroe County ARES
George Adams IV, Net Control - cq@k4gwa.net

ROCHESTER DX ASSOCIATION, RDXA

The next meeting will be Tuesday 17 January, 2023 at Johnny's.

The topic will be Beverage antennas, practical application" (and real world results).

Bill (K2TER), John (AC2RL) & Chis (K2CS) will discuss several different receive antenna configurations.

January meeting is **IN Person ONLY**.

Please check our website www.rdxa.com for up-to-date information regarding meeting locations and requirements, if any.



ROCHESTER RADIO REPEATER ASSOCIATION

Stay tuned to our web site www.k2rra.org for current information.

XRX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The XRX Amateur Radio Club meets the second Thursday of the month (except July and August). 7PM at the Webster Recreation Center. Zoom meeting info, when available, is sent out to our mailing list. How to subscribe and up-to-date information is always on our website at <http://xarc.us> We have a System Fusion repeater south of the city on 145.290, and another on 444.825 west of the city that is also D-Star capable. Both are also analog capable with 110.9Hz tone. All are welcome.

AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTHERN TIER, ARAST

As of the Rag's cutoff date, ARAST was preparing to hold its annual Christmas party at the new Masonic Lodge in Horseheads, as we brace for two days of snow. It maybe a memorable one!

ARAST meets the third Thursday of every month at the Emergency Communications Center on Harris Hill in Big Flats, next to the National Soaring Museum. Our Chemung County ARES (CCARES) organization meets the first Tuesday of the month except February at the same location. Both organizations serve amateurs in Chemung, Steuben and Schuyler counties in New York and Bradford and Tioga counties in Pennsylvania. All are welcome to attend our meetings.

NOTE: Both CCARES and ARAST monthly meetings are now being held both in person and online. Check out the Upcoming Events at our website, www.arast.info, for the latest details.

Don't forget to check out our repeaters when you visit the area. N3AQ 147.36(+) and the W2ZJ 146.70(-) are the principal 2-meter repeaters. The latter can also be accessed via Echolink node 574415 with the call sign KD2QND-R. A full list of repeaters that can be heard in the Twin Tiers area surrounding Chemung County can be found at http://www.arast.info/arast_website/public/repeaters.php.

We also invite you to check out our new 6-meter net on Wednesday evenings at 9 p.m. local time on 50.200 MHz USB. The net usually lasts approximately one hour. Operators are encouraged to check in and participate in the round table discussions or simply stop by from time to time. We would welcome participation from RARA members.

COMMUNITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, CARC

If you are interested in being a part of this forward thinking and active club, visit us at a meeting or join us on one of our weekly nets. We meet at the Hoag Library (134 S. Main St. Albion, NY) on the first Saturday of each month at 7PM. Each meeting has a brief training/refreshers period with upcoming topics including: net protocol, repeater set-up/maintenance, and digital signaling. The club holds a net every Sunday evening at 8pm (winter) and 9PM (summer) - 0100 UTC Monday - on 147.585 simplex, and we host the Thursday Night Social Net, Thursday at 8:30PM on 147.285+. We'd love to hear you check-in!

DRUMLINS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Drumlins Amateur Radio Club meets every third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 PM at the Wayne County EMO/Sheriff's Office 7376 State Hwy 31 #1000, Lyons, NY 14489. Doors open at 7 pm, meeting starts at 7:30 pm. Announcements will be made on the 146.685 repeater. The Drumlins ARC website address is <http://drumlinsarc.us/>

DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION OF PERINTON, DCAP

DCAP members continue to experiment with leading edge digital communication modes. We were formed in 1994 to foster the development of local and regional packet radio networks using AX25 and TCP/IP. Today we have members using the club sponsored DSTAR repeater (KB2VZS on 444.8MHz), several personal and publicly accessible DSTAR hotspots, Yaesu System Fusion systems on non-club repeaters and DMR systems through repeaters and personal hotspots. DCAP members meet for breakfast at 7AM nearly every Saturday morning at Rikki's Family Restaurant in the village of Fairport and everyone is welcome to join us. Talk in is on the KB2VZS analog repeater on 146.715MHz with a PL tone of 110.9Hz.

ROCHESTER VHF GROUP

You are invited to join us on-line & on-the-air! We're here to help you to use the license that you worked so hard to get.



Check out what we do by visiting our website at <http://RVHFG.org> to start.

Join our e-mail group by sending a message to RVHFG+subscribe@groups.io.

Join our weekly on-the-air nets on SSB:
2 meter band - Monday 9 PM 144.260 USB
6 meter band - Thursday 9 PM 50.205 USB

No VHF SSB radio (yet) to join the nets?
Log-in to Echolink ka2ene-L #23426

We can help to answer the question, "What radio should I buy?" Here's a list of HF+++ radios, those with the HF bands and at least three VHF bands, giving you access to all sorts of VHF fun. Research each one to see which serves you best. Ask questions on our email list. We're here to help!

Yaesu FT-100D	Yaesu FT-817	Yaesu FT-818
Yaesu FT-847	Yaesu FT-857	Yaesu FT-897
Icom IC-706MKIIG	Icom IC-7000	Icom IC-7100
Icom IC-9100	Kenwood TS-2000	

Some are older models and some are newer models, but all provide access to the 6 meter, 2 meter, and 70 centimeter bands using both traditional FM and the exciting narrow-band SSB mode that supports unexpectedly long-distance (100's of km's routinely and 1,000's of km occasionally) VHF communication. These are good all-around radios no matter what club you end up affiliating with later. We hope its us.

KEUKA LAKE AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, KLARA

Keuka Lake Amateur Radio Association, KLARA Happy December from Keuka Lake Amateur Radio Association. We are busy planning our Winter Field Days event. This year we will be at Station 2 at the Hammondsport Fire Department in Hammondsport, NY. They said it's heated to 50 F so it's close enough to outdoors!

Congratulations to Belinda Connor KD2BPJ on taking 1st place in the NY QSO Party YL division for 2021.

Joel KC2VAW and Donna KD2CZY are busy doing POTA. Look for them and make contacts!

We are happy to announce a Winter HAMFEST February 4 at the Almond, NY Community Center. It will be open to the public at 8 a.m. and vendors at 7 a.m. The location has heat and electricity with lots of room for parking. For more information contact Rick W2RMT or email KLARA. It will be free for vendors and visitors and we will be offering VE testing at 10 a.m. (pre-register) and of course coffee pots on for donations. We are still in the planning stages but the date and location is locked in. A poster will be coming out soon.

Announcing the new Hump Day KLARA Net, Wednesday night 7 p.m. 2 meter on the KLARA Repeater system and Echolink. Come join in the fun! There's no net control—just have a fun time using the repeaters. Sunday nights at 8 p.m. is the KLARA weekly net on our repeater system and Echolink. Check in and play trivia with us. The Sunday-Friday HF net on 3.896MHz check in begins at 8:30 AM and the net starts at 8:45 AM. It's a great round table net starting with introductions then topic of anyone's choice. Just great camaraderie on the radio.

Our meetings are the 2nd Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the VFW in Bath. Stop in and stay for the meeting. We love to have visitors!

ORLEANS COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Orleans County ARC meets every 2nd Monday of the month at the Orleans County Emergency Operations Center, 14064 West County House Road, Albion, NY 14411. Doors open at 6:00PM, meeting starts at 7:30PM. Anyone with an interest in amateur radio is welcome. Program topics vary from month to month.

The club has an open two-meter net every Tuesday night at 9:00PM local time on the club repeater, WA2DQL/R (145.27 -600KHz offset, 141.3 tone). Everyone is welcome to check in.

See the club website <http://ocarc.us> or contact club Secretary Ron Craig, N5BNO for more information.

SKENOH ISLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, SIARC

The Skenoh Island Amateur Radio Club meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7:30PM at the Ontario County Safety Training Facility, 2914 County Road 48, Town of Hopewell. We have License Exam Testing every other month which begins at 6:30PM. The next meeting will be January 11th, at 7:30PM. There will be exam testing.

SIARC is also holding a Health and Welfare NET Monday through Friday each week at 2000 hours on the SIARC 146.820 repeater (located in Canandaigua, NY), Tone 110.9. This net is to pass along general information and keep hams in touch. All hams are invited to participate.

THE AMATEUR'S CODE

Originally written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)

THE RADIO AMATEUR IS:

CONSIDERATE	Never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.
LOYAL	Offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local club, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.
PROGRESSIVE	With knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station and operation beyond reproach.
FRIENDLY	With slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.
BALANCED	Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.
PATRIOTIC	With station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

RARA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND COORDINATORS

OFFICERS

President: Scott Theis, W2LW	(845) 774-9809	president@rochesterham.org	Treasurer: Mike Moore, KC2NM	(585) 721-0011	treasurer@rochesterham.org
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FEBRUARY RAG DEADLINE

JANUARY 15, 2023

**RARA MEETS AT 7PM ON THE FIRST
WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.**

**JOIN US IN PERSON
OR
ONLINE AT:**

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3229745465743550815>

CONTACT WEBMASTER@ROCHESTERHAM.ORG FOR SUPPORT

Rochester Area Repeater Listing

THE RARA RAG

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